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1908

WETASKIWIN

THE
ELEVATOR
CITY
OF ALBERTA

The Times, Printers and Publishers, Wetaskiwin

Facts About Wetaskiwin

It is a Divisional Point at the junction of Winnipeg-Wetaskiwin Trunk Line of the C. P. R. and C. & N. Railroad.

It has an altitude of 2180 feet, an ideal climate and an average rainfall of 20 inches.

It is the commercial centre of the district (28,000 square miles in extent) comprising millions of acres of rich farming, grazing, timber and coal lands.

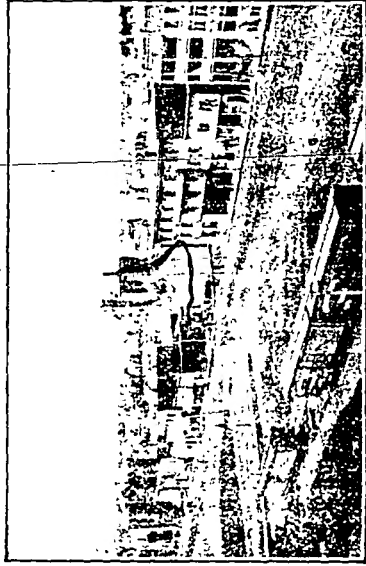
It has six large elevators, a Government creamery (200,000 lbs. of butter being shipped out at an average of 20c and 5,000 cases of eggs at \$6.00 per case), 100 cars of cattle and 200 cars of hogs shipped from the stock yards per annum, \$20,000 of white fish shipped from the local market and three million feet of lumber manufactured in the district to the West. The production of grain for the Wetaskiwin district being two and a quarter million bushels.

It has a Court House costing \$75,000, new C. P. R. station \$25,000, Alexandra school \$50,000, Merchants Bank block \$40,000, Electric Light Plant \$50,000.

It has a High, Public and Kindergarten schools, three Chartered Banks and eight Churches.

Among the Manufacturing Establishments located here are: A flour mill (100 bbl.), sash and door factory, tent and mattress factory, box factory, machine shop and foundry., etc.

(Write Secretary Board of Trade re business openings.)



PORTION OF WEST SIDE

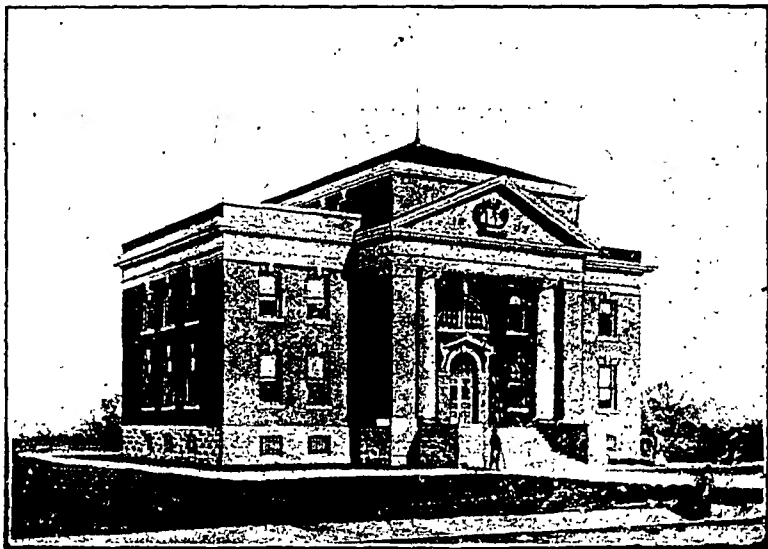


PORTION OF EAST SIDE

It is not possible in this booklet to give the public any adequate conception of the possibilities in and surrounding the City of Wetaskiwin, known far and wide as "The Elevator City of Alberta." It is merely the intention to give in outlines a few of the facts relating to the opportunities which are open both in the City and surrounding country for those who are seeking a home and are willing to share with Nature the productivity of this fruitful District.

It was on account of the rapid settlement of the district surrounding Wetaskiwin that the C. P. R. commenced to reach out towards the East and started in 1904 a branch railway which in a few short years has developed into a Main Line with Winnipeg and Wetaskiwin as terminals. In all probability this line will be continued to the coast through the Yellow Head Pass, which is due west of Wetaskiwin, and towards which the other main lines are directed by a more circuitous route. The C. P. R. have this year completed a fine station to accommodate travel, and purchased land to install their track system. The future of Wetaskiwin is thus well assured as it possesses railway facilities equal to any city in the West, and shorter connection with the East than any other City in Alberta. The C. N. R. have plans filed for a line running in from the north east.

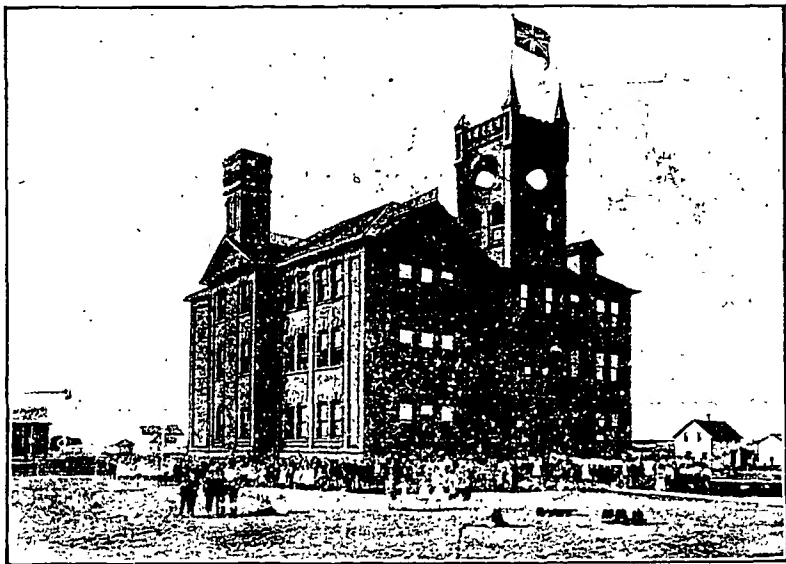
The population is 3,000 and is steadily increasing. The City in 1904 established an electric light plant which has been successfully managed and returns a good revenue. It has lately added to the plant a power service as well, by the installation of a gas unit, to supply power to motors at cheaper cost. The City has a well equipped fire system and is installing a system of sewerage and waterworks. In this connection it might be mentioned while drilling for artesian wells, three of which have been obtained, a good vein of gas was tapped. This well has been



COURT HOUSE

drilled to a depth of nearly 1,000 feet for the purpose of finding what pressure could be obtained. It is found that at the present time sufficient gas exists to run half a load on the gas unit. The deepening of this well will take place as soon as possible when a greater pressure is assured.

The City has branches of three chartered banks, all kinds of outfitting establishments, including general stores, stocked with well assorted goods, wholesale and retail machinery warehouses, and everything necessary to outfit the incoming settler. There are six large elevators with a capacity of 250,000 bushels,, eight churches, seven hotels, the Alexandra Public school, High school, Separate school, Government creamery, planing mill, mattress factory, machine shops, box factory, macaroni factory, flour mill eight livery stables, and such other stores and enterprises necessary to carry on the demands of the City and District. Still there are good openings for all kinds of manufacturing concerns which will find ready support and a growing demand for goods which are now shipped in from the east and which might very easily and profitably be manufactured at home. There are good openings for such industries as the following: Cereal mills, tannery, packing plant, woodwork factories sugar factory, brick yard, cement works, hosiery and glove factory etc, while large marl deposits await development. City property is very reasonable and living expenses are at a minimum. There are two newspapers establishments. It is the centre of a judicial system and the Government have under construction a large and commodious Court House of cut stone and pressed brick which will be ready for occupancy this year. There are located here a resident judge, clerk of the supreme court, clerk of the district court, sheriff, Dominion land agent, R. N. W. M. P. barracks, etc., etc.



ALEXANDRA PUBLIC AND HIGH SCHOOL


EDUCATIONAL

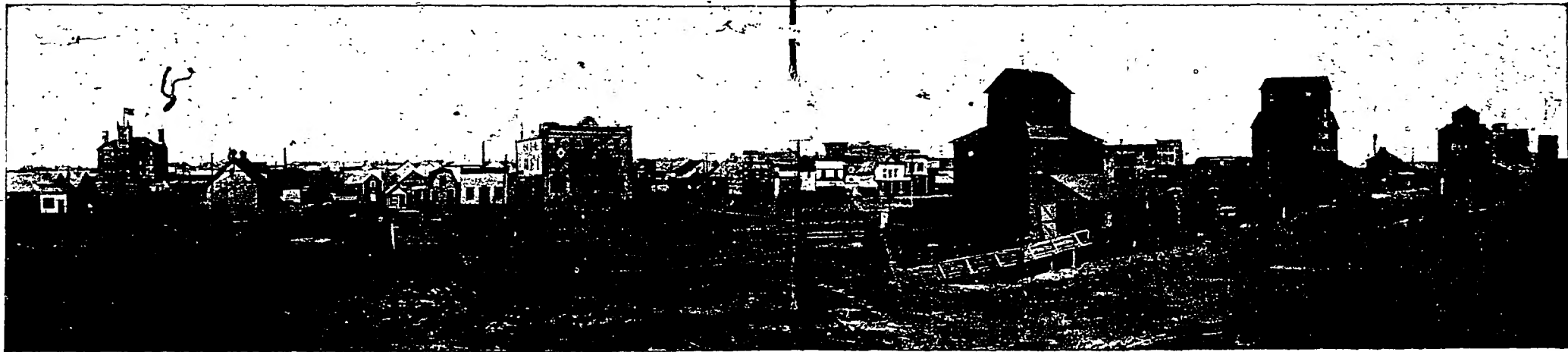
Nothing is so marked in our Western provinces as the attention paid to the educational institutions. In passing over the Western country we see evidences of this on every hand. This promises great things for our future. We are building on the right foundation and realizing to the full the motto "Nothing is accomplished where education is lacking."

If this is true of the Western provinces generally, it is characteristic-ally true of Alberta and of the City of Wetaskiwin in particular. No other place has shown more energy or more zeal in placing first in the minds and hearts of the people the school, out of which will come future citizens, upon whom will depend the well-being, in time to come, of the city.

In Wetaskiwin there are two schools, the Roman Catholic Separate and the Alexandra Public and High school. The first is a large frame building of two rooms in the charge of two very able and experienced teachers who take the work through the fifth standard. The latter is a fine brick building of three stories, splendidly equipped in the most modern manner. It was modelled after the best schools of our country in the east and in the west. There are eleven teachers on the staff. The Educational Board of the city are a very keen, prudent committee and have shown these qualities in their careful selection of teachers. In the High School the members of the staff are all Specialists in the departments and in the Public school the aim has been to secure assistants who have the very highest standing for that work.

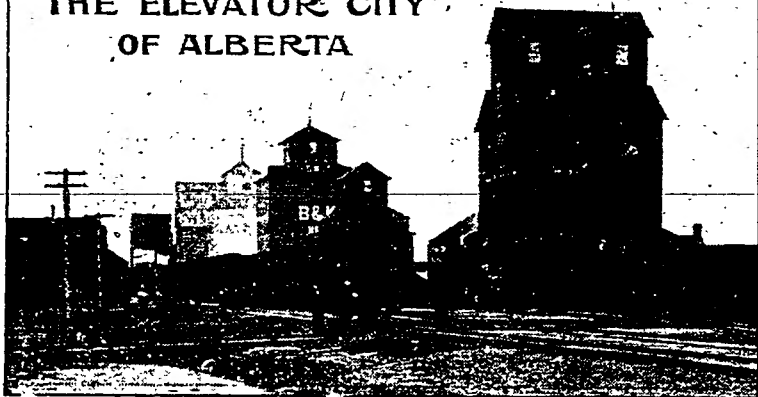
The full curriculum of both Public and High school work is taught. The child can start at the age of four in the kindergarten and pass right up through all the standards to the second year of University work.





ELEVATORS AND PARTIAL VIEW OF CITY

THE ELEVATOR CITY
OF ALBERTA



GRAIN ELEVATORS

THE WETASKIWIN DISTRICT



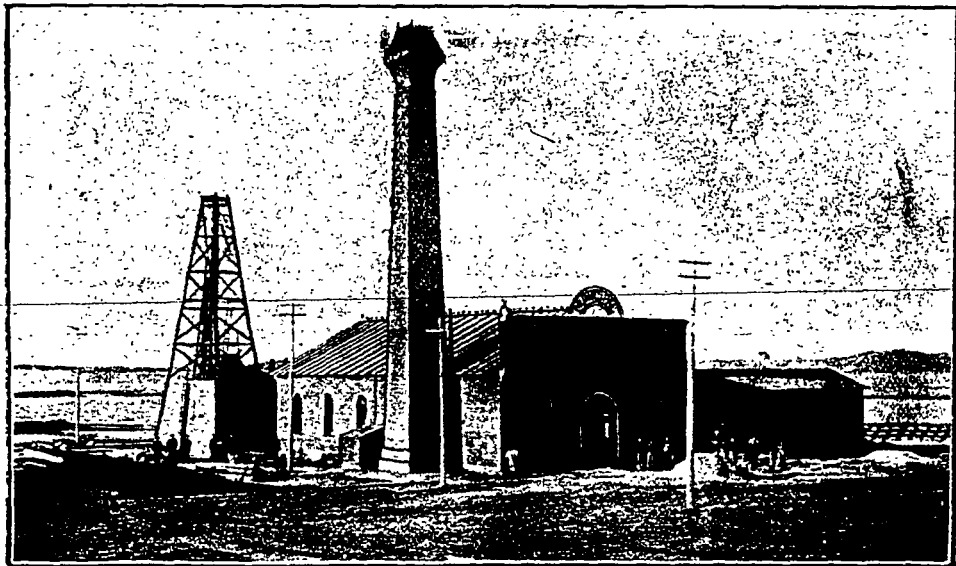
The famous Wetaskiwin District, which comprises some 28,000 square miles of very fertile soil, is situated along the valley of the Battle River. It is the most attractive in the North West, the country having a Park like appearance and is pleasing to the eye. Poplar and willow groves are interwoven with large tracts of prairie covered with luxuriant grasses and herbage ready to be used as pasture land, to furnish an abundant supply of hay for winter use or to be broken by the plough. Already in this district some 65,000 acres are in cultivation and the results obtained are eminently satisfactory indeed. All classes of cereals are grown and the country is rapidly changing to a thriving farming community. The surface is undulating and well drained by numerous streams. Lakes and lakelets are scattered throughout the district, giving abundance of fresh water.

Speaking of this portion of the North West in his geological report of Northern Alberta Prof. Tyrrell says: "We have now reached the partly wooded country. The soil has become richer and deeper, and instead of the short buffalo grass of the plains the grass is longer and mixed with thick growth of vetch and pea-vine forming excellent pasture. This partly wooded country lying between the great plains to the south and the forests to the north has for many years attracted the favorable notice of travellers, and is even yet best known to many by the name "Fertile Belt" which was given to it by Dr. Hector in 1861." Wetaskiwin is the centre of this district.

Prof. Macoun in his report of this District says: "This tract is un-



A BUSINESS BLOCK



ELECTRIC LIGHT AND POWER PLANT, SHOWING LOCATION OF GAS WELL



STOCK FARM

surpassed in the North west for its capacity to grow wheat, as the soil is rich, the surface is almost level and what slope there is inclines to the south."

The climate of the Weatskiwin District is most delightful. A better average of temperature or more sunny days will seldom be found. There is no dust or wind storms, for, being situated on the outer zone of the "Chinook Belt," no reaction is felt.

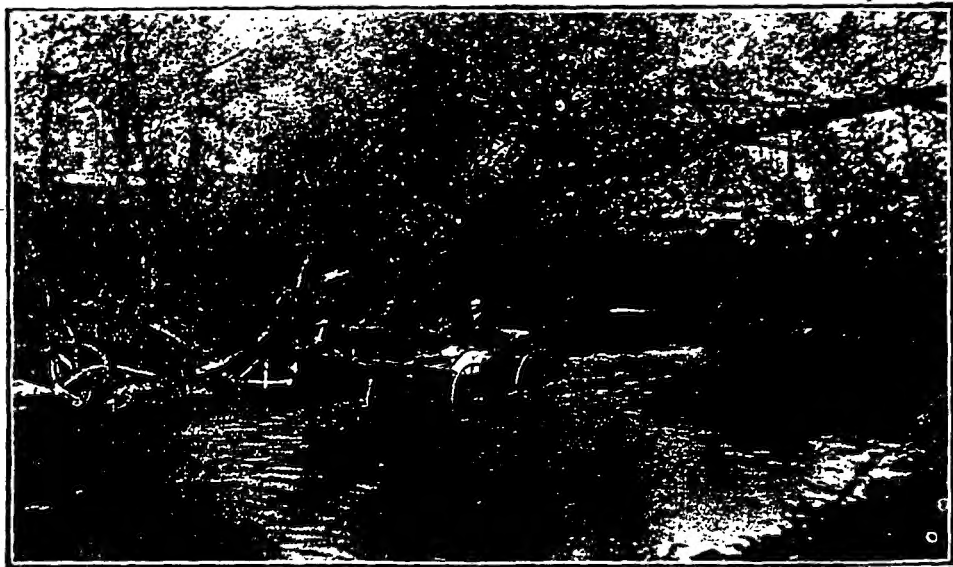
The soil is a rich black loam with an average depth of two feet. The sub-soil is a dark brown clay many feet in depth. The rainy season occurs in June and July, leaving the remainder of the year free to do all classes of outdoor work, and even if the rainy season is short no damage can possibly come to the crops as there is sufficient moisture in the clay sub-soil to mature any crop. Grain can be threshed in the open field during the fall months. The winter months are clear and mild with an occasional colder period lasting only a few days.

Wheat, oats, barley and all kinds of cereals and vegetables and fruits grow in abundance. It is not uncommon to find yields of wheat running as high as 55 bushels to the acre and oats as high as 110, although the average is 40 of the former and 60 of the latter.

Horses, cattle, sheep and hogs are successfully raised upon the native grasses. Catt'e are turned off the range direct to the English market.

Coal is abundant throught the district. Wood to the west and along the courses of the rivers to the east is always at hand. Water is easily obtained. Plenty of game and fish of many kinds are found in all the lakes and rivers.

For further information apply to Secretary Board of Trade, Wetaskiwin, Alberta, Canada.



A POPULAR SUMMER RESORT NEAR WETASKIWIN

WESTERN LIFE